

THE CHARITON COURIER

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FARMERS ELEVATOR STROYED BY FIRE

The Farmers Elevator, on West Second street was completely destroyed by fire discovered about 7:15 Wednesday evening. The loss is estimated at about \$80,000, practically covered by insurance, according to Mr. Stegling, manager.

Between \$10,000 and \$12,000 bushels of wheat were stored in the bins. One car, just loaded, standing on the scales, was pushed out on the switch and was not damaged. There was very little corn in the building. About 900 bushels of oats and about ten or twelve tons of feed, were lost.

Something like 20,000 pounds of flour was on the floor of the flour house, and all burned except a few hundred pounds.

The fire was discovered by Ben Roling who put in the alarm. Before the fire department could reach the building the entire west side of the building was in flames. The firemen were handicapped because the stream played on the blaze would not reach to the top of the building. From all indications the fire started on the roof of the cob house. The origin however, will always remain a mystery. There had been no fire about the premises and there were no electric wires in that particular section of the building. Some are inclined to think that a spark from a passing locomotive lodged on the roof of the cob house and started the blaze.

The Wabash engine house, only 25 or 30 feet east of the elevator was also destroyed.

The elevator was the tallest building in town and the blaze could be seen for many miles and many country people drove to watch the fire. The building burned so rapidly that an hour or so after the blaze started it had burned to the ground.

A strong wind from the northwest fanned the blaze and sparks were carried several blocks. The roof of several dwellings on Third and Fourth streets were set on fire from flying embers, but were promptly put out by watchers.

The elevator was built by the Leach Bros. in 1906, following the destruction of the old elevator on the same site September 18, 1904. The Farmers Co-operative Company bought the elevator from Leach Bros. in 1913, paying \$12,000 for the building and equipment. T. E. Leach managed it until March, 1915, when the late John Legendre and Richard Stegling took charge as managers. Since the death of Mr. Legendre, Mr. Stegling has had charge of the business, with J. M. Mason as assistant.

The stock is owned by this section and its affairs are controlled by a board of directors chosen annually. The elevator has been a success and has paid good dividends. A meeting of the board was held Thursday morning, and plans made to continue the business. Space was rented in the Rolling garage where an office will be fitted and the business carried on as usual. The usual stock of flour and feed will be carried. The old cider mill will be used to store feed, etc.

What will be done about rebuilding can not be determined until there has been a meeting of the stock holders, but from expressions made by a number of them, a new and better elevator will soon be built.

When the old elevator burned in 1904 there was no water works system, and its lack was deplored. It was the loss of the building then that started the movement for a water works system. A few days after the fire a petition was circulated asking for an election to vote on the proposition. The election was held October 25th, and the proposition carried by 256 to 45.—Salsbery Press.

FELL IN WELL

Chas. T. Ballow came very near losing his life early Thursday morning when the concrete curb to the well at the place where he lives fell in with him. He went out to crank his car preparatory to going to work which was standing near the well, and after cranking the same started around to get in the car and in so doing to do this had to pass over the well curb. When he stepped on the curb it broke and fell in followed by Mr. Ballow. He went down in the well which was about 18 feet deep and in which there was about 12 feet of water. He went down and down and came up and Mr. Ballow thinks he went down again and when he came up the second time grabbing for something to hold to he happened to catch hold of the pipe that came out to the well from the pump in the house. He held on to this till he got strength enough to call. Mrs. Ballow heard him and went to his rescue and called for help. A ladder was brought and he was gotten out.—Hale Leader.

G. W. BIGGER MEETS WITH SERIOUS ACCIDENT

Guy W. Bigger, senior member of the G. W. Bigger Heating & Plumbing Co., had his right leg broken off close to the hip joint, while at work at the new hospital building, Tuesday afternoon. The Bigger company has the contract to install the heating plant and is also doing the plumbing and tin work. The clothes chute to the basement is lined with tin, and Mr. Bigger was carrying a circular piece of tin about 20 inches in diameter needed to complete it, and for convenience had stepped inside of the section. This prevented him from seeing a hole near the front entrance that had been left for the plumbers. He stepped directly into the opening and landed with one leg on each side of a cross beam. His weight thrown against the leg snapped the bone, the noise sounding like a pistol shot.

Mr. Bigger was taken at once to Dr. Putman's office, where three x-ray pictures were taken. He was then removed to Mercy Hospital and Dr. Putman and Dr. R. M. Cater made him as comfortable as possible.

The injury is of a serious nature, and is occasioning the patient much pain, but he is pluckily meeting the test. Mr. Bigger is one of the town's foremost citizens, and has been identified with business interests of Marcelline for years. At one time he was publisher of the Marcelline Journal.—Marcelline Journal.

HIGH SCHOOL NOTES

The High school basketball team having an open date in their schedule played Huntsville on the latter's court last Friday and won by the score of 19 to 8, owing to their small court the scoring power of our team was not brought out until the last half, when they were able to adjust themselves. The game was marked by the excellent passing of our boys and the small number of personal fouls committed by them. Next Friday Mendon plays here. Come out and show your loyalty to Keytesville High by your support. We promise a fast game and a victory.

The farm shop is nearing completion and when finished will be one of the best in the state. We appreciate greatly the effort put forth by the school board in constructing a building of this type. In the near future when you are in need of a self feeder for hogs or chickens, a new farm gate, wagon box, rack for storing seed corn, hay frame or anything along this line all we ask is furnish us with the materials—we will do the work free and try to please.

When you are in Keytesville come around and see our farm shop and pay our department a visit. Since this course has been added twenty boys have taken advantage of it. A part of the time thus far has been spent in gathering and judging seed corn and testing soils for acidity on the farms of the vicinity.

Thanks to Mr. Freemeyer, a breeder of Reid's Yellow dent, we spent a very profitable day gathering seed. He devoted part of his time in explaining his success with pure seed. We also gathered seed corn from the farms of Mr. Zeke Ray, Remmert and Mr. Drace.

The Hessian fly and sewing on the fly-free date was taken up on the field trips. Our last one was to Mr. Alsapugh's place where we tested soil for acidity. He talked to the boys on the value of fertilizing his wheat. On one wheat field he used No. 200 of 212-0 and threshed 25 bushels per acre besides insuring a stand of clover. The field not treated yielded 7 bushels per acre.

The boys could easily notice the damage done by chinch bugs nearest the wheat. Several days of our time this winter will be spent in burning out fence rows and places where they live over winter. If you have been troubled by these pests we will be glad to help you since this department is for your boys.

SOCIETY NOTES

The Bridge club was delightfully entertained at the home of Mrs. Warner White last Friday afternoon. In addition to the members a number of guests were entertained. There being three tables at Bridge. Favors were given those making the highest score and Mrs. Linnie Sneed was awarded the guest prize and Mrs. B. Hughes was given the club prize. A delicious two course luncheon was served.

The 42 club was charmingly entertained at the home of Miss Jo Martin last Friday night. There were seven tables. The honors of the evening went to Mrs. Robert Hurt and Mrs. Charles E. Chapman, the former receiving the club prize and the latter the guest prize. Dainty refreshments were served by the charming hostess.

The members of the Christian church enjoyed a very appetizing supper at the church last Friday night. Owing to the fact that several were sick or had sick ones at home several were unable to attend. A good time was had by those attending and a beautiful meal was served.

HON. FLOYD E. JACOBS HERE FRIDAY NIGHT

Mr. Jacobs, a prominent attorney, and an ex-service man, recognized as one of Missouri's ablest and most entertaining speakers will be here to speak before loyal democrats Friday night Oct. 20.

The meeting will be held at the court house and as this will undoubtedly be the last political talk before election it is hoped a large turnout will be on hand.

Mr. Jacobs has a great reputation as a public speaker and he has promised to uncork some live issues.

U. S. SUPREME JUDGE DAY WILL RESIGN

Washington, D. C., Oct. 18.—The belief prevailed in semi-official circles today that Associate Justice Wm. R. Day of the United States supreme court, will send a letter of resignation to President Harding in the near future, probably within the next ten days.

Justice Day, it was reported, has definitely made up his mind that his duties as umpire in the settlement of war claims with Germany will be of such magnitude as to require his entire time.

U. D. C. CONVENTION OPEN WEDNESDAY EVE.

The present convention of the United Daughters of the Confederacy opened Wednesday evening, October 18th, at 8 o'clock p. m. with a reception for delegates and state officers at Elks' Home.

All other meetings of the convention were held in the Fourth Street Methodist Church.

Thursday was historical evening, and began at 7:30 p. m. Mrs. Bonartha of Hannibal is State Historian and presided. The program was interesting and instructive.

Delegates were present from Kansas City, St. Louis, Mexico, Marshall, St. Joseph, Sedalia, Slater, Nevada, Monett, Monroe City, Blackwater, Columbia, Jefferson City, Farmington, Fayette, Hannibal, Higginsville, Independence, Richmond, Warrensburg, Linneus and Springfield. The delegates present representing Keytesville Chapter were, Mrs. Robert Hurt, Mrs. Chas. Lamkin and Mrs. Frank M. White.

Mrs. Jno. D. Taylor treasurer of the U. D. C's was also present.

BONUS FUND SHORT SEVEN MILLION

Jefferson City, Oct. 18.—There now is about 14 million dollars left in the state bonus fund, and this doubtless will fall short about 7 millions of meeting all approved claims, with some one hundred thousand of the latter already paid.

The constitutional convention has proposition to submit a supplemental constitutional amendment for the issue of 7 million dollars, in addition to the 15 million dollars voted by the people.

The work of receiving and paying of the claims will proceed, and if found necessary, as will probably be the case, the state will borrow enough money to carry along the cost of administration until such time as additional bonds to cover the deficit shall have been issued.

FINED \$500. FOR MAINTAINING A STILL AT HOME

Joe Johnson, in the circuit court today, was given a fine of \$500 for maintaining a still in his home. A stay of execution upon \$300 was granted him until the next regular term of court.

Gariand Nelson was also fined for having in his possession on September 4th fourteen pints of corn liquor. The state yet has one liquor case to try. This against C. W. Burcher.—Moberly Democrat.

COAL COMPANY IS INSTALLING NEW HOIST

The Chariton County Coal and Coke Company is installing an electric hoist in their mine, south of the city limits. A new 2300 volt transmission line is being strung from the municipal power plant, and as soon as it is completed the plant will be ready for its new machinery.

The Coal and Coke Company has been in operation about a year, starting with only a few men doing all of the hoisting by gasoline power. The improvements now being made will materially increase the output and the company expects to haul about thirty tons of coal daily, gradually adding to this as the demand increases.—Marcelline Journal.

F. FRANK SMITH OF K. C. TALKS GOOD ROADS TUESDAY

The Community Club had one of the most successful meetings in the history of any Keytesville organization Thursday night.

The subject was good roads first. Education and marketing second. Of course, the dairy cow, the chicken and the hog came in for a deal of discussion.

J. Frank Smith of Kansas City was the speaker introduced by Senator Jno. D. Taylor, chairman of Keytesville's Community club. The enthusiasm abounding was a distinct surprise to many and the life shown by members has been the talk of the town since.

This meeting was the first one of these gatherings where the country was represented and it was noticeable that the country visitors had a few ideas of their own on good roads.

FARM NOTES.

At our various poultry meetings the past few weeks we have explained the method of keeping poultry records and a number of farm women have said they would be glad to start keeping record on their flocks November 1st. In order that there may be no delay in starting, I would like for everyone who intends to start keeping record to write the County Agent or phone this office and blanks will be sent for the entire year.

For the benefit of all who will start keeping records, the County Agent will plan to visit your farm and help you get started right. Please let him know at once in order that blanks may be sent you promptly.

While on the subject of poultry, I wish to say that now is the time to get some straw into the hen-house and start feeding grain in this straw so the hens will get exercise. Instead of standing around shivering these cold mornings. The hen who has plenty to do and the happy working hen is the laying hen. So put some straw in the hen-house and scatter a little grain in it every morning, and fix up the mash hopper so the hens will have access to egg producing materials. Right at this time hen eggs are worth the money.

Good Chariton County Apples.

We think Chariton County has something to crow about. Mr. Jones, representing a Fruit Commission Company in Kansas City, and who says he has traveled a hundred miles in several directions from Kansas City, was in this County last week and made the statement more than once that in at least two orchards he found the very best quality of apples he had seen anywhere this year. The fundamental reason for this is the fact that we have a very fine apple soil in the southern part of Chariton County, and some of these apples have been sprayed and taken care of this year by being sprayed at the right time. We are glad to report that some of the apples are going to be shown at the St. Louis Apple Show both as private exhibit and also as a County Farm Bureau Exhibit. We certainly want to carry off some of the honors at least.

Chinch Bug Burning.

Right now is the time to remember that chinch bugs may be destroyed by burning their winter homes. In other words all weeds and grass along ditch banks and fence rows should be burned, and the ground left exposed. As we had so much trouble with chinch bugs the past summer it is up to us to do all we can to destroy them this winter.

R. D. JAY, County Agent.

DALTON MAN TO GET A WIFE IN MOBERLY

A few weeks ago newspapers carried an article from a man at Dalton who wished aid in finding himself a wife. The local Y. W. C. A. was appealed to as a medium through which he might meet a worthy woman, who, like himself wanted and could appreciate the comforts of a home.

Publicity was given the man's wants and the result was the beginning of a correspondence between the man, whose name is C. F. Munson and Mrs. Lena Edwards of this city.

From the correspondence came visits of Mr. Munson to Moberly and from the visits has developed the plans for the marriage, which will probably be solemnized Sunday.

Mr. Munson is a man in the early fifties. He is said by those who have met him here to be a very nice looking man. He is a carpenter by trade and has a comfortable home. His wife died a little more than two years ago in the Woodland Hospital. Mrs. Edwards has been employed in the Wabash restaurant and being without home ties, was able to understand and respond to the call.

The club is going in great shape at this time and has an immense program in view in regard to good roads.

Mr. Smith gave a very interesting talk in connection with Chariton county and illustrated his discourse with charts. His vast field of statistical information brought forth exclamations of surprise on several occasions.

Lack of space this week makes it impossible to give his speech in full, but the following will be of interest to Courier readers:

Substance of address by J. Frank Smith. Good Roads Association of Greater Kansas City before the Keytesville Community Club at the meeting Tuesday night.

Speaking of Chariton county, Mr. Smith called attention to the fact that the Missouri state board of agriculture, in its report, gives the bottom lands along the Missouri river as the "world's best bottom." The soil here represents the accumulated deposits from the uplands due to erosion and overflow of hundreds of years.

If this county, with its deep and fertile soil, could be supplied with 500 miles of 365-day roads, a consolidated rural school for each congressional township, enough creameries and cheese factories and milk markets to put every farmer within easy reach of a market for his dairy products, with 3,426 silos or one for each farm, with 20 good dairy cows for every farm, Chariton county could easily support twice her rural population. The annual value of the farm crops, live stock, dairy and poultry, instead of being 18 million per year, could easily be doubled in amount.

What Wisconsin is Doing

With soil less fertile, with winters more severe and summers much shorter, with an average of 50 creameries and cheese factories to each county, with an average of 262 miles of gravel and paved roads to each county, the farmers of Wisconsin today are getting a gross income, according to the census report of 1920, of \$77.63 per acre. According to the same report, the gross income to the farmers of Chariton county was only \$46.48 per acre.

The farms of Jackson county, Missouri, with over 400 miles of hard surfaced roads, yielded to the farmers in 1919 a gross income of \$80.56 per acre. The farms of Wyandotte county, Kansas, where dairy cows and truck patches prevail, made a gross return to the owners of \$81 per acre. The soil of Jackson and Wyandotte counties will not compare in richness to that of Chariton county.

State Roads

The Missouri state road system will give to Chariton county one highway north and south through Keytesville, and one east and west through Keytesville, giving the county approximately 66 miles of state highways. At the present time, this rich county, with its wonderful possibilities in intensive agriculture, fruit and dairy farms, does not have a single mile of hard surfaced roads, and the only hard roads in immediate prospect are the 66 miles to be built and paid for by the state and federal government.

Loss in Rural Population

Mr. Smith called attention to the last census report which showed that Chariton county had lost in rural population in the last 20 years, 6,348 from the farms. He gave as the outstanding cause for this big loss to the farms of their population, as bad roads, poor rural schools, lack of proper returns to the farmers for their money and time invested and the lure of the easy life and high wages offered to the boys and girls in the cities. To overcome this drift from the farm to the city, to hold the most energetic and capable young men and women on the farms, Mr. Smith insists that the one-room school must give place to the consolidated rural school, with four year high school course, including manual training, domestic science and special attention given to agriculture; with provision for transporting the pupils to and from school at public expense.

He also insists that the farmers must give more of their effort to poultry, dairy farming, hog raising and less attention to grain farming, for the reason that the grain crops are less dependable than the drought resisting crops which fill the silos and make rich cow feed.

To make it possible to have these consolidated schools and intensified farming, Chariton county must provide itself with a system of 365-day roads. The two state roads intersecting at Keytesville, will not suffice to meet the demands of this county. Rich in soil and natural resources, great in possibilities, this county must see the need of better transportation from farm to market and outline at once a program which, when carried to completion, will provide this county with at least 200 miles of county roads, passable 365 days in the year, to connect up with these two state highways and thus give the people of the county a transportation system equal to the needs of its population.

County Roads Not a Burden

The building of these 200 miles of county roads need not be a burden to the taxpayers of the county. The two state roads will carry the heavy traffic. The 200 miles or more of county roads would only be required to carry the local traffic which would not call for an expensive type of road. A road to carry this traffic, to be gravel or some other type, not costing more than \$10,000 per mile, could be built with a bond issue, paid for over a period of 20 years and the average tax to the average farm would not exceed \$25 a year.

A few dozen eggs, a few old hens or a few extra gallons of milk meet the tax to the average farm and the benefits that would accrue would be

BOMB EXPLODED IN WABASH YARDS

A bomb was exploded in the Wabash yards last night about 8 o'clock. The instrument was about thirty feet in front of the yard office near the third track. It was evidently of home-made construction. The explosion caused quite a jar, it was said, but no very serious damage was done.

Two box cars were peppered with slugs of lead and a large size hole torn in one. A hole was dug in a track where the bomb laid. One piece of shell was found on the yard office roof. Authorities picked up a piece of lead about a foot long which is said to be a piece of the cartridge.

Militiamen arrested nine men who were congregated at the St. Clair coal office. They took the men to the city police headquarters and requested their correct names and addresses.

The following are the names and addresses taken by the military officers:

Mark Miller, 833 Concession St.; D. R. Hayes, 413 Johnson; Moss Stephenson, 519 Johnson; Smith Patch, 1410 Myra; L. E. Baker, 816 Franklin; R. L. Patch, 511 Johnson; M. F. Kirks, 538 Hagood; Ed Kelly, 511 1-2 W. 3rd.

The military officers told the police all they desired last night was the correct names and residences of the men. After they had obtained these they released the men.

No one was injured by the explosion.

At 11 o'clock last night the military authorities arrested two other men for violating the terms of the federal injunction. They were J. M. Bass, of 1003 Bond street, and Elmer Welch of 1005 Henry street. Their names were taken and placed with the other nine arrested earlier in the evening and they were then released.

General Superintendent T. J. Jones said last night that the company would proceed against the eleven men arrested last night for violating the federal injunction. Mr. Jones said he had just talked to Homer Hall in St. Louis, general attorney for the Wabash system. He said Mr. Hall would arrive in Moberly this morning and will at once take charge of the case and begin the preparation of the papers necessary to the prosecution.

Mr. Jones addressing a Democrat reporter said:

"From this time on the Wabash Railroad will prosecute vigorously every violation of the federal injunction. We have been more than lenient in regard to a great many things that have happened here during the past few months. From this time forward there will be no leniency. Every violation of the federal injunction will be prosecuted, no matter who the party is who is guilty of such violation."—Moberly Democrat.

CHILD RUNS BEFORE CAR

Frances Thomas, 5 years old, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Miles C. Thomas, 4112 Locust street, was the victim of the Westport avenue tragedy.

Coming from the church, and in view of the crowds leaving the building, she ran between two automobiles parked at the curb and into the path of a car driven by S. A. Shockey, 6911 Wornall road, an insurance man. The child's skull was fractured and she suffered internal injuries.

With the assistance of the child's Sunday school teacher, Mrs. Grace Guthrie, 3922 Campbell street, the victim was placed in Mr. Shockey's car and taken to St. Mary's hospital.

The accident occurred at 11 o'clock in the morning and she died at 5:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

From the hospital Mr. Shockey drove to Westport police station, where he made a statement and was released.

Dr. Moss ordered the body to the Freeman mortuary. An inquest probably will be held.—Monday Kansas City Journal.

Many will remember that this little child's father, Miles C. Thomas, was Supt. of the Keytesville High School some few years ago. An aunt of little Frances, Mrs. Joe Pemberton, has been in this community for some time at the Geo. Preston home. Mr. Pemberton having charge of some road work in that vicinity. The sympathy of the Courier is extended to the bereaved parents.

no great that it could hardly be computed in dollars and cents. It would mean that Chariton county, in a few years, would be supporting twice the present population, all of the farmers supplied with a high school within easy reach of the farms, a profitable market for the products in easy reach over 365-day roads; fewer acres would be required to support the average family and the cost for these improvements would be so small compared with the benefits that no man who is anxious to better the conditions of himself and family would object to the roads.